

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : HIROYUKI KAWAE ET AL. Confirmation No.: 01-764
 Serial No. : 10/026,871
 Filed : December 21, 2001
 TC/A.U. : 2879
 Examiner : Kevin J. Quarterman

 Docket No. : 01-764
 Customer No.: 34704

Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant hereby submits the prior art listed hereinbelow, copies enclosed, which prior art was cited in the corresponding European application.

- (1) EP Patent No. 1 045 458;
- (2) U.S. Patent No. 6,066,861;
- (3) UK Patent No. 2 039 517;
- (4) International Publication No WO98/0679; and
- (5) EP Patent No. 1 013 740.

The undersigned hereby certifies that each item contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in the European search report dated May 10, 2005.

The undersigned submits the above-identified references for

independent consideration by the Examiner and does not make any admission that these references are or are not material to the present invention or that these references are or are not prior art with respect to the present invention.

Respectfully submitted,

Hiroyuki Kawae et al.

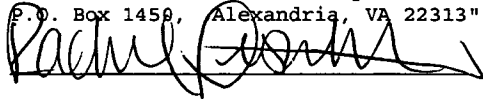
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Date: June 15, 2005

I, Rachel Piscitelli, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail in an envelope addressed to: "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313" on June 15, 2005.



Receipt date: 06/17/2005

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PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/026,871
Filing Date	December 21, 2001
First Named Inventor	Kawae et al.
Art Unit	2879
Examiner Name	K. J. Quarterman
Attorney Docket Number	01-764

Sheet	1	of	1
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U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY			
		EP 1 045 458	10-18-2000	Shimizu et al.		
		UK 2 039 517	08-13-1980	Boogerd et al.		
		WO 98/0679	02-19-1998			
		EP 1 013 740	06-28-2000	Kita et al.		

Examiner
Signature

/Kevin Quarterman/

Date
Considered

06/21/2010

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /KQ/